

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1. (Currently Amended) A method implemented by a server system for communication with a user over the Internet, the method comprising:

the server system rendering a hypertext document including emitting program code instructions for registering the mappings between input field names in the hypertext document to
and software component properties property names in an input field mapping table when the hypertext document is rendered, a software component being a server-based component that uses data from the input field for processing;

the server system maintaining an input form mapping table to map forms to input field tables in an input form mapping table, and linking the input field table to the input field mapping table;

the server system providing the rendered hypertext document to a user;

the server system receiving from the user input field data entered in a at least one named
input field;

the server system determining from the mapping a software component property mapped to the named input field; and

the server system calling the software component for processing the input field data, the mapping being ~~done~~ performed such that the fields in the document are linked to fields received by the software component and such that the software component can process the input field data regardless of the spelling of without requiring that the name of the input field in the hypertext document match a corresponding field name in the software component; ~~and~~

converting the submitted input field data to a correct data type.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the rendering includes emitting hypertext form tags with a current value of an input field pre-filled in.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mapping includes encoding the hypertext input form with a unique name and registering the name.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the receiving includes determining if the user submitted input field data is from a hypertext input form and bypassing input field processing if the determination cannot be made.

5-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining includes iteratively processing input names associated with a component property to determine if data associated with any of the input names has been entered.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the determining includes processing in order of priority stored with the mapping of the input field names.

12. (Currently Amended) A web server system embodied in a computer readable medium comprising:

a preprocessor for generating program code to register mappings between hypertext input field names and software component properties and to emit hypertext form tags, the software component being a server-based component that uses data from the input field for processing;

a name-space manager for registering the mappings; and

a data handler, responsive to input data submitted by a remote user with an input field name, for using the mappings in the name-space manager to associate the input field names with the appropriate component properties, and for calling the software component to process the input data, the mapping allowing the software component to process the entered data ~~regardless of if the name of the input field in the hypertext document does not match the corresponding field name in the software component, wherein the data handler converts the submitted input data to a correct data type.~~

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the name-space manager includes a table for mapping a form to input fields, and for mapping input fields to a component property.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the name-space manager includes a table for mapping a form to input fields, and for mapping input fields to a priority that determines the order in which the data handler processes the input field mappings.

16-17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising converting the submitted input field data to a correct data type.

19. (New) The system of claim 12, wherein the data handler converts the submitted input data to a correct data type.